

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, please delete “Description Transmission filter apparatus” and please insert the following amended title:

TRANSMISSION FILTER APPARATUS

Amend the specification as filed on September 5, 2006, by adding before the first line the sentence:

This application is a National Stage of International Application No. PCT/EP2005/002148, filed March 1, 2005, which claims benefit of German Application No. 10 2004 011 733.0, filed March 4, 2004.

Replace paragraph [0061] on pages 24-25 of the specification as filed on September 5, 2006, with the following amended paragraph:

The cell arrangement formed by the Pockels cells, which can be operated in transmission and is useful for producing a spatially dependent retarding effect on the light of the incident light distribution, and which can be driven electrically so as to produce a temporally variable, spatially dependent retarding effect can also be used without a downstream polarization filter arrangement in the projection exposure machines for microlithography and in other fields. It then operates as a retardation arrangement for the spatially dependent setting of locally different retardations at an incident light distribution. Such retardation arrangements can be used for converting an input beam incident from an input side of the retardation arrangement into an output beam that has over its cross section a spatial distribution, capable of being influenced by the retardation arrangement, of polarization states that differs from the

spatial distribution of polarization states of the input radiation. Within wide limits, any desired spatial retardation distributions can be set by means of the independent electrical drive of the individual cells. Possible applications of retardation arrangements with a retarding effect that varies spatially over their cross section are disclosed, for example in patent EP 0 764 858 B1 from the applicant, or ~~DE 101 24 808~~ DE 101 24 803 (corresponding to US 2002/0176166 A1) from the applicant. The content of these applications forms part of the content of this description by reference.